

29 OCT 1984

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Mr. Tom Harkshire  
Office of the Governor  
State of Illinois  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Mr. Harkshire:

This letter notifies you of a proposed Superfund project to be funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). This project is subject to the State Intergovernmental Review Process. The 60-day comment period on this proposed action will begin five days after the date of this letter. Please address any comments on the proposed action to Region V, Grants Management Section.

The project is outlined below:

Site Name: National Lead Industries/Taracorp Lead Smelter

Location of Site: Granite City, Illinois

Site Rank: This site is ranked in Group 7 of the National Priorities List (40 CFR Part 300 Appendix B), established by the U.S. EPA pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-510).

Nature of the Problem: National Lead Industries/Taracorp Lead Smelter covers approximately 25 acres. Taracorp purchased the facility in August 1982, from National Lead Industries, which had operated it since 1979. Taracorp reclaimed lead from battery cases and other scrap. On the site is a waste pile approximately 20 feet high, made up of 220,000 tons of broken batteries, blast furnace slag, and other lead waste. About 15,000 people live within one mile of the site.

Description of Proposed Activities: A remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) is proposed. A remedial investigation (RI) is an activity involving investigation to gather the data necessary to: a) determine the nature and extent of problems at the site; b) establish remedial response criteria for the site; c) identify preliminary alternative remedial actions; and d) support the technical and cost analyses of the alternatives. The feasibility study (FS) is an activity involving a study to: a) evaluate alternative remedial actions from a technical, environmental, and cost-effective perspective; b) recommend the most cost-effective remedial action;

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and c) prepare a conceptual design, cost estimate for budgetary purposes, and a preliminary implementation schedule for that action. In particular, this proposed action will be to compile background data on the site, and to prepare an evaluation of all alternatives to clean up the site.

Community Relations Activities: U.S. EPA will develop and implement a Community Relations Plan as part of the RI/FS.

Estimated Cost: \$300,000, to be 100 percent funded by the U.S. EPA.

Estimated Projected Start Date: February, 1985

Project Completion Date: June, 1985

State Project Officer: Mr. Robert Cowles  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
2200 Churchill Road  
Springfield, Illinois 62706  
(217) 782-6760

EPA Project Officer: Mr. Michael O'Toole (54R)  
Remedial Response Branch  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
230 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

As I have indicated above, you will have 60 days to submit your comments. However, I would very much appreciate hearing from you at the earliest possible time so that we can proceed with the project work without any delays. Mr. O'Toole of my staff, can be reached at (312) 886-3908, and is available to assist you in any way during your review.

Sincerely yours,

Basil G. Constantelos, Director  
Waste Management Division

bcc: Robert Cowles, IEPA  
Thomas Jackson, FOS  
Mike O'Toole, RRS II  
John Oaks, PSS  
Carol Kavcic, WMD